

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, July 5, 2016. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Bob Conklin, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, John Stauter, and Chris Wilen. Absent: Alderman Chris Schuchard.

Also present were City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Deputy Fire Chief Mike Dettman, Acting Police Chief Tim Morgan, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no communications from Visitors.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) Approval of Minutes from June 20, 2016
- B) Approval of Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$726,076.81
- C) Plan Commission Minutes from November 19, 2015 and May 19, 2016
- D) **Resolution #R2016-7-15 to close streets for the Latin American Fiesta festivities (road races and parade) on Saturday, September 10, 2016**
- E) Partial Pay Request #12 to Martin & Company Excavating in the amount of \$120,914.20
- F) Partial Pay Request #3 for ADA Compliant Intersections at Third Street/Fourth Avenue and Second Street/First Avenue to Twin City Construction in the amount of \$66,354.12
- G) Partial Pay Request #5 for Sixth Avenue and Eighth Avenue to Twin City Construction in the amount of \$115,408.56
- H) Partial Pay Request #3 for Sixth Avenue Road Reconstruction to Martin & Company Excavating in the amount of \$253,332.29
- I) Optimist Club of Sterling to hold a bucket brigade on July 16, 2016
- J) Marine Corp League/Sauk Valley Detachment to hold a bucket brigade on July 30, 2016

The motion was seconded by Alderman Stauter. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve the appointment of Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson P.C. as City Attorney; seconded by Alderman Conklin. Alderman Martin asked if this an open term. Manager Shumard stated that there is no term limit. Mayor Lee suggested periodic reviews so that both parties maintain open communication. Alderman Stauter asked if we would have a designated attorney. Attorney Tom Sanders, with Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, stated that this up to the Council.

Sanders stated that he was available this evening. Alderman Conklin asked the preferred route to contact the attorney. Mayor Lee stated that the Council should route their contacts through Manager Shumard. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the appointment of Dawn Ziegler to the Library Board for a three-year term, to expire June 30, 2019; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve the low bid of O'Brien Civil Works in the amount of \$219,663.20 for Phase I of the Wallace Street alignment; seconded by Alderman Elston. Manager Shumard explained this alignment will tie into the plaza development. Alderman Stauter asked how the Best Cobb building fits into this. Manager Shumard stated it will be not affected yet. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2016-7-11 Approving Amendment No. 3 to the TIF Redevelopment Plan and Project for the West Central Business District Redevelopment Area**; seconded by Alderman Conklin. Matt Keegan, with Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, explained that this ordinance essentially removes property from the West Central Business TIF District so it can be placed in the East Central Business TIF District. At the next meeting there will be an agreement for the Lawrence Lofts. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2016-7-12 Approving the Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study, and Redevelopment Plan and Project (the "Plan") for the East Central Business District Redevelopment Project Area (the "Area")**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2016-7-13 Designating the East Central Business District Redevelopment Project Area**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Conklin made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2016-7-14 Approving Tax Increment Financing for the East Central Business District Redevelopment Project Area**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter asked if everything is in place for the TIF Districts. Keegan reported everything is ready. The only thing that cannot happen in the TIF District is industrial use. The new district will expire in 2040, 23 tax periods from now.

Mayor Lee went back to the Strategic Plan Update on the agenda. Mayor Lee asked Janna Groharing Main Street Director, to provide an update on meetings regarding downtown. Groharing explained she has been meeting with Sterling Today, the City, the Chamber, Greater Sterling Development Corporation, and the Small Business Development Director, David Buchen, from Sauk Valley Community College.

Alderman Elston asked if the City had received any quotes for windows at Lawrence Brothers. Superintendent Schrader stated the quote was \$10,000 for 2 rows of plastic windows. Discussion followed on knocking out windows and security/safety of buildings.

Alderman Martin made a motion to adopt **Ordinance #2016-7-15 to Vacate 10' of right-of-way on each side of 17th Avenue from East Fourth Street to East First Street**; seconded by Alderman Conklin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Manager Shumard reported the bricks are in the street on Sixth Avenue and will be soon on Eighth Avenue. He reported the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Director resigned. She was a fiend of Sterling's. Manager Shumard updated the Council on Second Street. Alderman Conklin asked if a sign can be added to the "Road Closed" sign that businesses are open and accessible.

Alderman Elston reported a good turnout for the movie on Tuesday, probably 300 people and a large turnout for the Patriotic Concert on Wednesday. She looks forward to more concerts and movies this summer.

Alderman Wilen learned that a street can be in the City but the houses along that street may not be in City limits. She thanked City staff for helping resolve this issue.

Mayor Lee learned that West 20th Street is a gravel road. He also thanked emergency personnel for their work over the holiday weekend while others were enjoying it with their families.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk